United Nations S/2015/854

Security Council

Distr.: General
10 November 2015

Original: English

Letter dated 9 November 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my letters dated 27 August (S/2015/669) and 9 September 2015 (S/2015/696), in which I conveyed to the Security Council my recommendations and elements of the terms of reference for an Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism, pursuant to Security Council resolution 2235 (2015).

On 24 September 2015, I appointed an independent three-member leadership panel comprising one Assistant Secretary-General, as Head of the Joint Investigative Mechanism, and two deputies at the D-2 level, responsible for the political and investigation components, respectively.

The leadership panel of the Joint Investigative Mechanism has been working towards the implementation of the recommendations that were authorized by the Security Council on 10 September 2015 (S/2015/697), including, but not limited to, the recruitment of impartial and experienced staff with relevant skills and expertise, with a view to operationalizing the Mechanism.

Initial funding for the period from 24 September to 31 December 2015 was provided by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General under the commitment authority of the Secretary-General, pursuant to the provisions set out in General Assembly resolution 68/249 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2014-2015. The process of establishing funding for the staff of the Joint Investigative Mechanism from the regular budget has commenced. The Mechanism will be recognized as a special political mission and will be funded as such for the period from January to September 2016.

In the light of the above, and as requested by the Security Council in paragraph 10 of its resolution 2235 (2015), I would like to inform you that the Joint Investigative Mechanism will begin its full operations on 13 November 2015.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

15-19573 (E) 101115

Please recycle